

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 3255

FOR AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON FROM AMBASSADOR SMYTHE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS, CM
SUBJ: LOS - PAUL ENGO

REF: STATE 166820 AND PREVIOUS

1. MET WITH PAUL ENGO JULY 2 BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE JULY 3 FOR VACATION TO GET REACTION TO JUNE 19 LETTER, WHICH HAD BEEN TYPED IN LETTER FORM AND DELIVERED TO HIM JUNE 21. HE RETURNS FROM VACATION IN THREE WEEKS.
2. HIS GENERAL COMMENT WAS THAT HE WAS "NOT IN DISAGREEMENT" WITH YOUR GENERAL ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSALS; THE MOMENTUM SHOULD BE SUSTAINED AND FURTHER CONCRETE GAINS MADE. HE REITERATED THE NECESSITY FOR PERSUADING ALL THAT ALL WILL BENEFIT FROM AGREEMENT.
3. THE FIRST PART OF SUBSECTION (1) OF 4TH PARAGRAPH HAD HIS GENERAL APPROVAL. HE THOUGHT THERE MIGHT BE A PROBLEM WITH GROUP OF 77 IF GROUP OF COMMITTEE I RATHER THAN PLENARY DEALT WITH IT. HE SEEMED TO HAVE SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT WHETHER FRANK NJENGA WOULD THEREFORE BE IN CHARGE OF IT.

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4. SUBSECTION (2) PRESENTS NO PROBLEM FOR ENGO.
5. HE HAS NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO SUBSECTION (3), BUT THINKS HE SHOULD KEEP HIMSELF AVAILABLE FOR DELICATE PROBLEMS POSED IN FIRST TWO SUBSECTIONS RATHER THAN TYING HIMSELF DOWN TO DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, CRUCIAL THOUGH IT IS. HE SEES NO ONE READY TO COMPROMISE AND BELIEVES THE

INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES NEED TO TAKE THE LEAD, SINCE THEY WILL BE THE ONES TECHNICALLY PREPARED TO ACT AND THEREFORE MORE LIKELY TO BE INVOLVED IN CONFLICT. GROUP THREE MIGHT DO IT.

6. PARAGRAPH 5 (AFTER THE SUBSECTIONS) FINDS HIM "OPTIMISTIC," IF YOUR ASSESSMENT IS CORRECT (HE SEEMS TO ASSUME THAT YOUR INFORMATION REGARDING GROUPS FOUR AND FIVE IS SUPERIOR TO HIS.)

7. HE RETURNED AT END TO COMMENT ON NEED FOR REASSURING PROCEDURE WITH REGARD TO DISPUTES-SOMETHING WHICH WOULD MAKE THE PARTIES FEEL CONFIDENT THAT THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE FRENCH AND AMERICAN ATTITUDES WOULD BE RESOLVED.

8. AN INTERRUPTION PREVENTED FULL DISCUSSION OF THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY ISSUE.(REFTEL) I WAS ABLE TO ASSURE HIM THAT THE US HAD NEVER OPPOSED TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AND INDEED ISALREADY TRAINING PEOPLE FROM LDCS IN MARINE SCIENCES. I OBSERVED THAT REJECTION OF SPECIFIC FORMULAE FOR TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY DID NOT IMPLY REJECTION OF THE PRINCIPLE.

9. COMMENT: SINCE I WAS ALSO CONSULTING WITH HIM ON HUMAN RIGHTS MATTER, IT WAS IN HIS INTEREST TO BE COOPERATIVE. HE INDICATED ALSO THAT HE SEES US ROLE IN LOS AS UNDERSTANDING OF THIRD WORLD VIEWS AND PARTICULARLY HELPFUL AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE EXTREME POSITIONS. HE DESCRIBES HIMSELF AS AN CONFIDENTIAL

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INTERNATIONALIST NOW, WHICH I TOOK TO MEAN THAT HE FELT HE COULD TAKE A BROADER VIEW THAN THE LDCS. ON THE WHOLE, HE RESPECTED AND VALUED YOUR VIEWS.

10. OTHER EMBOFFICERS HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH HENRY FOSSUNG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, WHO ALSO ATTENDED GENEVA LOS CONFERENCE. FOSSUNG SAID HE ENCOURAGED BY RESULTS OF GENEVA. HE CLAIMED 90 PERCENT OF TREATY SETTLED AND ONLY 10 PERCENT HARD CORE REMAINED. HE HOPED ATTEND AUGUST MEETINGS AND HAD RECOMMENDED GURC SEND PART OF UNGA TEAM EARLY ENABLE CAMEROON FULLY PARTICIPATE LOS MEETINGS.

11. ON ANOTHER OCCASION ENGO INDICATED THAT THE USSR IS STEPPING UP ITS FISHING AND OTHER SEA ACTIVITIES IN EQUATORIAL GUINEA AS A STEP TOWARD SEABED EXPLOITATION, ALTHOUGH HE CONSIDERED USSR AS NOT TECHNICALLY READY AT PRESENT FOR SEABED MINIG.
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